First Member of Council.—

Not quite necessary.

Dewan.—

The jurisdiction of the Committee in such cases is fixed according to certain rules framed by Government.

Mr. M. Narasinga Rao.—

With reference to the same sub-division I, should like to know whether there were no damages in the Chitaldrug District on account of the floods.

First Member of Council.—

That question does not arise.

By Messrs. A. Ananthaiya, (Shimoga Taluk Constituency) and N. Gurulingappa (Honnali Taluk Constituency).—

Q.—22.—(1) Will the Government be pleased to state what led them to standardize Remington Typewriter in the State when no such system is in vogue elsewhere?

(2) What are the machines approved by Government for use in offices before the said standardization?

(3) Before the Remington Typewriter was selected for standardization, (*a*) did the Government call for tenders from those companies whose typewriters were on the approved list?

(*b*) How did the rates of Remington compare with those of other makes?

Chief Secretary to Government.—

A.—22. (1) As it was considered that the purchase by individual departments of different makes of typewriters in small numbers and at irregular intervals was uneconomical and was attended with other disadvantages, it was decided to standardise a single good make of typewriters for use in all the public offices and to effect purchases through a central agency.

(2) As many as ten makes of machines were on the approved list before Remington machines were standardised. Of these, the machines chiefly in use were the

Remington, the Oliver, the Underwood and the L. C. Smith, in the order mentioned.

(3) (*a*) The reply is in the affirmative.

(*b*) The decision to standardise Remington machines was taken after a careful examination by the Stores Purchase Committee, of the terms offered by the several firms and the merits of the several makes of machines.

Supplementary Questions.

Mr. A. Ananthiah.—

With reference to the answer to sub-division (2), will the Government be pleased to state whether all the ten makes of machines were of the standard type and were not the rates submitted by each of them more reasonable than those mentioned by the Remington Company? If so, why should the contract be given to the latter company exclusively? Who decided upon giving the contract to the Remington Company?

First Member of Council.—

It was the Stores Purchase Committee consisting of officials and non-officials that decided upon accepting the terms of the Remington Company after full consideration of all the facts placed before them.

Mr. Ananthiah.—

Is there any technical officer who could properly gauge the relative merits of each machine?

First Member of Council.—

There were Heads of Departments on the Committee who had sufficient experience of the durability and the efficiency of the various makes.

Mr. Ananthiah.—

Did any Head of a Department give an opinion in regard to the Oliver Machine?

First Member of Council.—

I cannot say.

Mr. Ananthiah.—

Would not the Oliver Machine have been better for use in Government offices?

First Member of Council.—

It is a question of opinion.

Mr. Ananthiah.—

How many Oliver machines are in use in Government offices?

Dewan.—

That question requires notice.

Mr. Ananthiah.—

Did not the Oliver machines work properly and if so why were they not adopted?

First Member of Council.—

The Committee after taking into consideration all the aspects of the question, decided upon the Remington Machine as being in the best interests of Government. They discussed this question at several meetings and took considerable time to come to a final decision.

Mr. Byanna.—

If the Government come to know later that other machines are more durable than Remington, can the Government cancel the agreement that they have entered into with the Remington Company.

First Member of Council.—

Not until the period of the present contract expires.

BY MESSRS. B. GOPALACHAR, TUDKI RAMANNA, AND H. S. VENKATAPPA GOWDA (Tirthahalli Taluk Constituency).—

Q.—23. Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) The number of small cause suits, original suits, execution petitions and miscellaneous applications filed in the Munsiffs' Courts at Shimoga and Sagar and in the Subordinate Judge's Court at Shimoga, during the last five years.